He was ready to prove himself a man: The heroic in Australian children's literature


AUTHORS
Hillel, Margot

ABSTRACT
Part of a special issue on childhood and cultural studies. The writer examines the trope of the heroic child in Australian children's literature and discusses how books written for young people can manipulate ideological viewpoints in readers. She concludes that in Australian children's literature, the notion of heroism is closely connected to the construct of Australia as a rural landscape and the notion of hero can be seen as part of the construct of the noble Australian bushman, a construct that does not allow for heroism in female characters and that, in children's literature, usually precludes adults.

YEAR
2003

JOURNAL
JCT: Journal of Curriculum Theorizing

JOURNAL CITATION
19 (2), pp. 73 - 90

PUBLISHER
Caddo Gap Press

ISSN
1057-896X

PAGE RANGE
73 - 90

PLACE OF PUBLICATION
United States of America

Permalink -

Restricted files

'Hillel, Margot. (2011) 'She makes them tingle all over' : eroticising the child in twentieth-century Australian picture books


'Give us all missionary eyes and missionary hearts' :Triumphalism and missionising in late-Victorian children's literature


'Some of these books are for mature readers' :Australian young adult literature and the CBC Awards


Child, nation, race and empire: Child rescue discourse, England, Canada and Australia, 1850-1915


Welcoming strangers :the politics of 'othering' in three Australian picture books


"being thankful for their birth in a Christian land": Interrogating intersections between whiteness and child rescue


Befriending sea creatures and journeying through life: Images of the ocean in Australian children's literature


Where is the mother in all this? Representations of mothers and mothering in popular Australian and South African books for young adults


Orphans at the beach: Revisiting Michael Noonan's the December boys


As though his face had been white: Child rescuers, whiteness and the empire

The shaping of childhood through the Victorian government readers

Picturing parenting in the words and illustrations of Bob Graham

Picturing Parenting in the Words and Illustrations of Bob Graham

The same but different: The dynamics of local and global in Australian, Canadian & south African children's literature

Helpless and a cripple: The disabled child in children's literature and child rescue discourses

Voyeurism and power: Change and renewal of the eroticized figure in Australian books for teenagers

Race and redemption: Images of empire in children's literature

Performing politics: Children as conscience

Ignorance is not innocence

Revisiting the Australian child: Nick Earl's 48 Shades of Brown, Anna Fienberg's Borrowed Light and Helen Barnes's Killing Aurora

A little child shall lead them: The child as redeemer
He finally reached the top of the slope, and pulling himself up the last few feet, found that he had been right. 3.____ It stretched straight before him, leading as far as he could see into the distance. There was no sign of any traffic. He was 'reconstructing', he was harmonising contradictions in his source-texts, sometimes he was supplying entirely new concepts (like hobbits), but he was also reaching back to an imaginative world which he believed had once really existed, at least in a collective imagination. The book is also deeply grounded in Tolkien's linguistic expertise – he invented whole languages for his characters. D is mostly read by school children. What do we learn about Gone With the Wind! A It was once more popular than The Lord of the Rings. 'I don't think I will send it anywhere,' he answered, tossing his head back in that odd way that used to make his friends laugh at him at Oxford. 'No, I won't send it anywhere.' Lord Henry raised his eyebrows and looked at him in amazement. Of course, you have an intellectual expression and all that. I think that he is just some brainless beautiful creature who should be always here in winter when we have no flowers to look at, and always here in summer when we want something to chill our intelligence. Don't flatter yourself, Basil: you are not in the least like him.' 'You don't understand me, Harry,' answered the artist. 'Of course, I am not like him. I know that perfectly well. They opened schools for the children and in 1636 founded Harvard College, the first American university. They also set up the first printing-press in the country and published the first books. Next he threw himself into the completion of his History of New York, told under the name of Knickerbocker. Published in 1809 it gave him a reputation of a humourist. When Irving sailed again in 1815 for England on business, he was to remain for seventeen years. After the family business failed, he devoted himself to writing, and the first result was "The Sketch Book of Geoffray Crayon, Gent." issued in seven parts between 1819 and 1820. Cooper was one of the first to prove that the world would read American authors. Check yourself. 1. What family and when was Fenimore Cooper born into? Modern children's literature is classified in different ways, including by genre or the intended age of the reader. 2. We can deduce from the above definitions that both of them seem to ignore some intrinsic sides of children's literature such as the cultural aspect, let alone its relation to translation, which is going to be analyzed in the following section of this research. 1.2 Children's literature and translation. Once we examine the field of children's literature in relation to translation, we immediately find out that it has been marginalized for a good deal of time. Xenie (2007:2), ment